



Introduction to Climate

Fill in the blanks: *rainfall, 30 years, average atmospheric conditions, typical conditions, long period,*

Climate refers to the _____, such as temperature and _____, in a specific location. It is determined by observing these conditions over a _____, typically around _____. Climate provides us with an understanding of the _____ we can expect in that area.

Colour code the statements into the correct category

Weather Climate

The Sahara Desert is hot and dry, with very little rainfall throughout the year.	It rained all day yesterday, but today it's sunny and warm.	In the UK, it's typically mild and wet throughout the year.
There was a sudden thunderstorm this afternoon that lasted an hour.	In Spain, summers are generally warm and dry.	What is happening outside right now. The conditions can differ from day to day.
The heatwave last week caused temperatures to soar above 35°C for several days.	A description of the typical conditions in an area over a long period of time.	In tropical rainforests, it's usually hot and humid, with heavy rainfall throughout the year.

Match the climate type to its description and examples:

Climate Type

Characteristics

Example locations

Polar

Moderate temperatures and four distinct seasons—spring, summer, autumn, and winter—typically with mild to warm summers and cool to cold winters with varying amounts of precipitation throughout the year.

Antarctica, Greenland, Arctic regions of Canada, Northern Alaska, Siberia, Russia, Northern Norway, Iceland...

Temperate

Warm coastal regions located between 30° and 45° north and south of the Equator, featuring hot, dry summers and milder, wetter winters, with moderate rainfall occurring primarily during the winter months. This climate supports a diverse range of vegetation, including shrubs, grasses and drought-resistant trees.

Amazon Rainforest, Congo Basin, Indonesia, Malaysia, Costa Rica, Panama, Jamaica, Northern Australia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Philippines...

Arid / Desert

Typically hot and often experience high levels of rainfall, particularly in regions near the Equator, like the Amazon Rainforest. In these areas, warm air rises, resulting in significant precipitation. Tropical rainforests thrive in these humid conditions.

The Andes, The Himalayas, The Rockies, The Alps, The Atlas Mountains, The Pyrenees

Tropical

Cold, dry climates found in the far north and south of the planet. Some polar regions are covered in ice and others have tundra vegetation.

Southern Spain, Italy, Greece, Turkey, South Australia, Portugal, Algeria....

Mountain

These regions receive less than 250 millimetres of rainfall annually, resulting in high daytime temperatures, cooler nights, and limited vegetation. Arid climates often featuring drought-resistant plants like cacti and shrubs.

United Kingdom, Germany, France, Japan, New Zealand....

Mediterranean

Colder climates at high altitudes, which can be found anywhere on the planet. Only small plants, such as grasses and mosses, can survive above the tree line.

Sahara Desert, Atacama Desert, Great Victoria Desert, Gobi Desert, Chihuahuan Desert, Thar Desert...



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